



Patent  
249/076

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#6(A)  
KCooper  
7-29-00

In re Application of: ) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned  
Charles S. Taylor, et al. ) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Serial No.: 09/480,826 )  
Filed: January 10, 2000 )  
For: ACCESS PLATFORM FOR )  
INTERNAL MAMMARY )  
DISSECTION )

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND  
NOTIFICATION OF COPIED CLAIMS FOR PROPOSED INTERFERENCE**

BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the subject application, please amend same as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 3, line 1, change "IMA" to -- internal mammary artery (IMA) --.

Page 11, line 1; before "eighteenth" change "a" to --an--.

Page 31, line 16, after "platform" insert --310--; line 17, after "platform" insert --310--.

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OC-43144.1

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**  
(37 C.F.R. §1.8a)

I hereby certify that I have a reasonable basis to expect that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

January 24, 2000  
Date of Deposit

  
Alexis L. Kovacs

Page 32, line 10, after "platform" insert --310--.

Page 33, line 5, after "platform" insert --310--.

Page 43, line 13, change "blades" to --blade--.

Page 46, line 18, change "715" to --714--.

Page 48, line 21, change "797" to --796--.

Page 49, line 7, after "base" change "789" to --781--.

Page 50, line 5, after the first occurrence of "carrier" insert --789--.

Page 66, line 14, change "facilitate" to --facilitates--.

### REMARKS

Applicants submit that the amendments presented herein do not add any new matter to the subject application and, in particular, the amendments to the specification presented herein merely correct a number of typographical errors overlooked in the parent application.

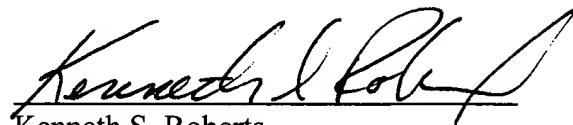
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.607 (c), Applicants hereby notify the Examiner that Applicants' claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 were copied verbatim from U.S. Patent No. 5,984,867, which issued on November 16, 1999 to Robert K. Deckman et al. (hereinafter "the Deckman patent"), and are identical to claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 10, respectively, of the Deckman patent, and that Applicants' claims 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 were substantially copied from the Deckman patent, with only minor differences in claim language, and correspond to claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12, respectively, of the Deckman patent. Applicants added the subject claims to the subject application in order to provoke an interference between the subject application and

Deckman patent. A Request for Interference under 37 CFR § 1.607 is being filed on an even date herewith. Thus, entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

  
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Dated: January 24, 2000

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